



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,638	05/17/2002	Harald Schach	10191/2138	8127

26646 7590 03/12/2004

KENYON & KENYON
ONE BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER

KUMAR, SRILAKSHMI K.

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2675

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/030,638

Applicant(s)

SCHACH ET AL.

Examiner

Srilakshmi K. Kumar

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Pre-Amendment A, filed 1/2/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The following office action is in response to Pre-Amendment A, which cancels original claims 1-9 and adds new claims 10-20.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matumoto (US 6,302,551) in view of Knoll et al (US 6,404,463).

As to independent claims 10 and 18, Matumoto discloses an illumination device for a display instrument (Fig. 1, col. 2, lines 45-64), comprising, a dial face (Fig. 1, items 20 and 40); a pointer scale arranged on the dial face (Fig. 1, items 21 and 41); a first scale marking arranged on a first side of the pointer scale on the dial face (Fig. 1, item 21); at least one of a second scale marking (Fig. 1, item 41); and an auxiliary scale arranged on a second side of the pointer scale on the dial face, Matumoto does not disclose auxiliary scale arranged on the second side of the point scale on the dial face. Knoll et al disclose in Fig. 1, an auxiliary scale arranged on the second side of the dial face in Fig. 1, item 60. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate multiple scales on the dial face of Matumoto as shown by Knoll et al as multiple scales would enable multiple items related to a vehicle to be displayed.

a first light source for illuminating the first scale marking (col. 3, lines 61-65); an optical waveguide into which a light of the first light source is injected, the light being deflected from the optical waveguide to the second scale marking (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23) ; at least one second light source for illuminating the pointer scale (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23); and a light funnel arranged between the at least one second light source and the pointer scale, wherein a light path from the at least one second light source to the pointer scale is separated from the optical waveguide by the light funnel (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23).

As to independent claim 20, limitations of claims 10 and 18, and further comprising, an actual vehicle speed is displayed by the cruise control display by a pointer, and a desired speed is displayed by the cruise control display by illuminating segments of the pointer scale of the display instrument (Fig. 1, dial face 20, col. 2, lines 45-64).

As to dependent claim 11, limitations of claim 10, and further comprising, a circuit board on which is arranged the at least one second light source (col. 3, lines 59-65).

As to dependent claim 12, limitations of claim 10, and further comprising, at least one second light funnel, wherein; the at least one second light source includes a plurality of other light sources, the pointer scale is illuminated by the plurality of other light sources, each of the plurality of other light sources is arranged in a respective one of the light funnel and the at least one second light funnel and the optical waveguide proceeds between the at least two of the light funnel and the at least one second light funnel from the first light source to the at least one of the second scale marking and the auxiliary scale (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23).

As to dependent claim 13, limitations of claim 12, and further comprising, wherein the pointer scale includes a plurality of scale segments (Fig. 1, items 21 and 41, segmented), at least

Art Unit: 2675

one of the plurality of other light sources is assigned to one of the plurality of scale segments, and the plurality of other light sources are able to be electrically activated individually and one of a brightness and a color of the plurality of other light sources is changeable (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23 and col. 7, lines 44-65).

As to dependent claim 14, limitations of claim 13, and further comprising, wherein the plurality of other light sources include a plurality of light emitting diodes (col. 3, lines 49-col. 4, lines 23). Although Matumoto does not state the light sources are that of light emitting diodes, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the light sources could have been light emitting diodes as light emitting diodes are advantageous as they are compact and low cost.

As to dependent claim 15, limitations of claim 10, and further comprising, wherein the light funnel includes a reflective material (col. 3, lines 30-58)

As to dependent claim 16, limitations of claim 15, and further comprising, wherein the reflective material includes a white plastic material (col. 3, lines 30-58).

As to dependent claim 17, limitations of claim 12, and further comprising, a circuit board, and a support in which the light funnel and the at least one second light funnel are interconnected, wherein the optical waveguide is held against the circuit board by the support (col. 3, lines 30-67, col. 4, lines 1-23).

As to dependent claim 19, limitations of claim 18, and further comprising, a diffusing screen arranged between the dial face and the first light source (col. 2, lines 45-64 and col. 3, lines 30-58).

Art Unit: 2675

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Srilakshmi K. Kumar** whose telephone number is **(703) 306 5575**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Saras, can be reached at (703) 305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-⁴³⁰⁶~~9314~~ (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


CHANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER